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The Alabama Librarian

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TUSCALOOSA COUNTY LIBRARY, TUSCALOOSA

April 1957

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 2

OFFICERS OF THE ALABAMA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION 1956-1957

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The Alabama Librarian

The Official Publication of the Alabama Library Association

VOL. 8 APRIL, 1957 No. 2

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The Alabama Librarian is the official organ of the Alabama Library Association, and, as such, carries news of the Association, its members, sections, and the addresses of conference speakers, as well as general articles. Published quarterly, in January, April, July, and October. Entered as second class matter at the Post Office, Montgomery, Alabama, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Annual membership is $2.00 a year, $1.00 of which is for a year's subscription to *The Alabama Librarian*. Subscription for non-members is $1.50 a year. Membership dues should be sent to the Treasurer. The final date for the submission of material to be published is the first day of the month preceding the month of publication.

From the President...

A PROGRESS REPORT

"Make no little plans,
They have no magic to stir men's blood."

The year 1956-57 has been busy and challenging.

Your president wishes to pay tribute to the fine group of officers and to those of you who have worked faithfully and diligently toward the accomplishment of the goals and projects approved by Council, which are now nearing completion:

1. ALABAMA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION LITERARY AWARD.

A five-member committee with Fant Thornly as Chairman, has done a splendid work setting up criteria and reviewing the books published by Alabama authors during the past three calendar years.

Purpose of the award is to encourage and promote the publication of books of literary or historical excellence by authors residing within the state.

The award will become an annual event with presentation ceremonies to be a highlight of the association banquet.

2. REVISE ASSOCIATION HANDBOOK AND CONFERENCE MANUAL.

A policy manual listing the organization, function and duties of officers and standing committees has been compiled under the efficient direction of Sybil Baird, Chairman.

One hundred copies of this 35-page work are being reproduced for distribution to officers and committee members.

3. ACCREDITED LIBRARY SCHOOL AT UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA.

Following general discussion at the January Council meeting, Dr. Jerrold Orne, Chairman of Planning Committee, drafted a statement to officials at the University of Alabama, recommending that an accredited library school be established, when adequate funds are available.

In the letter of recommendation, Dr. Orne paid tribute to the splendid training being given Alabama librarians by Mrs. Pauline Foster, Head of Library Science Department.

4. LEGISLATIVE AND PLANNING COMMITTEES COMBINED FOR ONE YEAR.

In order to complete the compilation of legislation relating to libraries, Council approved this request.

5. COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO STUDY THE NEED FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF LIBRARY PERSONNEL.

A sub-committee of Planning was charged with the responsibility of examining existing laws in other states regarding Certification of Library Personnel by a state agency.

6. LIBRARY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.

This award is to be presented to a librarian for distinguished service to the association or for a contribution to the profession over a period of years. Miss Margaret Miller, Chairman, Public Relations Committee, will be responsible for heading the panel of judges for this highly selective award.

7. SCHOLARSHIP RULES REVISED.

The scholarship rules have been revised under the capable direction of Margaret Hughes, Chairman.

A special appeal for funds has gone to the membership, with more than $2,000.00 out on loans to worthy students.

This has been a great year for library service in Alabama. The passage of the Library Services Act with its allocation of federal funds for improvement of library service in rural areas is slated to bring a million dollars in federal funds during the next five years, provided the original $7,500,000.00 is approved by the Bureau of the Budget.

As your president I have attended the Miami Beach conference of the American Library Association, the Southeastern Library Association in Roanoke, and the Midwinter meeting of the ALA in Chicago.

Other activities include attending on November 9-10, the two-day dedication of the new two million dollar library and library school quarters at Florida State University.

(continued on page 33)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HONORS THREE ALABAMA LIBRARIANS

MISS EVELYN MULLEN

There were quite a few of us in Alabama who didn't have a chance to say a personal good-bye to Evelyn Day Mullen, our Director of the Alabama Public Library Service Division, when she left us recently. We are proud and pleased that she has become one of the three new Public Library Consultants for the Library Service Branch of the U.S. Office of Education, and we want her to know that. We'll miss her!

It was just about this time of spring three years ago that Evelyn Mullen paid us her first visit—to look us over, so to speak. The weatherman did very well by us that day. Montgomery was never more beautiful. Like an anxious suitor putting his best foot forward, we gave her the full red-carpet treatment all day long. By evening we thought we could detect a few faint glimmerings of interest but were not sure. Ladies have been known to change their minds before.

She finally did accept us and great was the rejoicing. The partnership that promised so much worked out very well, too. Alabama got the benefit of that wide range of experience which Evelyn Mullen brought along as her professional dowry—school librarian, college librarian, Army librarian, county public librarian, and field worker for the North Carolina State Library. Alabama, in turn, gave her the experience of being responsible for the development of state-wide public library service, state planning, state budgeting, state administration, something quite different in many ways from all the other positions she had held.

We see it now, of course. Fate had planned it that way. Neither one of the partners knew three years ago that the Library Service Act would become a reality in 1956 and get into high gear in 1957. Neither of us knew that Evelyn Mullen would be just the one to be tabbed for one of the positions as Public Library Consultant — though we probably could have guessed it. We may be a bit prejudiced, to be sure, but we can think of no one better qualified to advise and counsel with the various state agencies regarding library problems than Evelyn Mullen. Just looking at the record would tell us that without even mentioning her warm, friendly personality and all the other factors so important to creating the right "climate" for better library service.

Evelyn Mullen says it is her "eternal curosity about a new job" that has given her all this experience. What she was actually doing was getting ready for service to the whole country. Yes, our loss is your gain, U.S.A.

—Gretchen Knief Schenk

MRS. JIMMIE M. McWHORTER

An Outstanding and Sustained Superior Performance Award was awarded to Mrs. Jimmie M. McWhorter, Librarian, Brookley Air Force Base Library, Mobile, in recognition of her outstanding performance of duties in this Air Force Library.

This award was given to Mrs. McWhorter through the Incentive Awards Program of the U. S. Government. This program is an effective means for management to recognize superior work of employees, encourage employees to participate in effecting improvements and economies in Air Force and Federal Government operations, and to recognize employees who perform special acts or service in the public interest which have particular significance to the Government.

In addition to the Outstanding and Sustained Superior Award this employee was also awarded a cash award of several hundred dollars.

Mrs. McWhorter is the only librarian in the Air Materiel Command ever to receive this double award. So far as is known, she is the second librarian in the Air Force University Command, was nominated for this award also, but a raise in grade and

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to receive it. Mrs. Ruth Field, Wing Librarian at Maxwell Air Force Base, Air a six-hundred-dollar annual salary increase were given instead.

DR. SADIE L. DELANEY

The article by Mr. Clyde Cantrell entitled "Sadie P. Delaney: Bibliotherapist and Librarian" which appeared in the Fall of 1956 issue of **The Southeastern Librarian** was presented to Congress by Senator James E. Murray of Montana on January 17, 1957, and reprinted in full in the **Congressional Record** of that date.

Dr. Delaney, Librarian at the Veterans' Hospital at Tuskegee, has had her work further recognized recently in Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's "My Day" column, and by being a member of the Bibliotherapy Committee of the American Library Association.

Library Science Scholarships Offered for 1957-58

A scholarship in library science to be known as the Gaylord Bros. Merit Scholarship has been established through the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. This scholarship is for five years, and will be available to a student entering college in the fall of 1957. The Gaylord Bros. Scholarship is the first to be established in library science through the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, and librarians throughout the country are grateful to Gaylord Bros. for this new impetus to the library recruitment program.

Friends of the Library of Mobile have authorized a grant of $500.00 to establish a scholarship for a qualified person from the Mobile Public Library staff interested in the study of library science at an accredited library school. The recipient is to be recommended by the library director and trustees. Mr. Willard Merwin, President of the Friends, says the group hopes to establish a permanent scholarship fund as the organization grows. The recipient of this scholarship will have no obligation except to pursue his education so as to better equip himself for service to the community and an agreement to return to the library and serve on its staff for not less than a year after completion of his study.

From the President

OFFICIAL CONVENTION CALL! April 11-13

For 53 years, Alabama librarians have eagerly grasped this opportunity to renew friendships, to gain inspiration from speakers of international renown, and to hear the account of the stewardship of their officers and committees.

Some of you recall with pleasant memories the 1941 Tuscaloosa conference.

A glance at the program reveals the names of John McKenzie Cory (New York Public Library) and Dorothy West (H. W. Wilson Company) who were partially responsible for the success of the meeting.

The 1957 Tuscaloosa conference offers "tops in culture and entertainment," thanks to the splendid efforts of Mrs. Pauline Foster, Program Chairman, who has secured more than a score of brilliant out-of-state and local speakers. (For complete program elsewhere in this issue.)

The conference theme is: **The Library and Its Future.**

A look at Tomorrow—Libraries in the rocket and jet propelled age and the future of the book—will be subjects emphasized in the three general sessions.

Elaborate preparations have been in progress for several months by Roberta Moss, Chairman of Local Arrangements, and her efficient committees, to insure librarians a royal welcome to this historic city.

Headquarters are the modernistic new Hotel Stafford, which opened recently, offering free paved parking areas, a swimming pool, a florist's shop and a coffee shop.

Mrs. Willa Boysworth and Wiley Williams report that our friends, the Exhibitors, have responded in a most generous way. More than 30 have reserved space.

From Los Angeles (Dr. Lawrence Clark Powell, University of California); from Tallahassee (Dr. Louis Shores, Florida State University); from New York (Mr. Theodore Waller, Vice-President, Grolier Society); from Chicago (Mrs. Orcena Mahoney, ALA headquarters); from Washington (Senator Lister Hill); from Knoxville (Mr. William H. Jesse, University of Tennessee), will come these speakers well known in library circles.

Nor has the talent of the South been overlooked in this coast-to-coast call for convention speakers, for Lucile Nix and Virginia McJenkin will make their way from Atlanta, Lois Rainer Green from LaGrange.

Virginia Sorensen and Christine Noble Govan are names well-known in literary circles. Mrs. Sorensen, winner of the 1956 Newbery Award, will deliver the banquet address. Mrs. Govan will speak at a breakfast for school librarians.

A special feature of the conference is the Thursday afternoon (April 11) Circles of Information program based on a leader-discussion type of program with the following persons as leaders: Mrs. Dixie Lou Fisher, Mr. Joe D. Langston, Mrs. Jimmie McWhorter, Mrs. Elizabeth P. Beamguard, Miss Catherine Green, Mrs. Orcena Mahoney, Miss Lucile Nix, and Miss Virginia McJenkin.

The conference officially opens with a 2:30 open meeting of Council and an informal reception at the University Club on Thursday evening.

Please make plans now to attend the convention. Bring your Friends of the Library representatives and Trustees to the Friends' luncheon on April 12, at 12:30!

Constitution Change

Proposed addition to the Constitution of the Alabama Library Association:

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE VII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's **Rules of Order,** latest revision, shall be the governing authority in any matter not specifically covered by this constitution and these by-laws.

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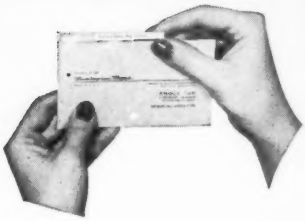

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ALABAMA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

ABSTRACTS FROM MINUTES OF COUNCIL

January 19, 1957

The Executive Council of the Alabama Library Association met at the Stafford Hotel, Tuscaloosa, January 19, 1957, with the President, Mrs. Jean Hoffman, presiding. Members present were Jerrold Orne, Elinor Arsic, Martha Jule Blackshear, Willa Boysworth, Ruth Field, Jimmie McWhorter, Abi Russell, Mozelle Cummings and Laura Gaines Sprott.

Committee Chairmen present were Roberta Moss, Pauline Foster, Macelle Pruett, Evelyn Mullen, Wiley Williams, Boyce Broadus, and Sybil Baird.

The minutes were read by the Secretary and adopted.

The Treasurer's report was read and adopted.

Mr. William Donaldson presented three tentative plans for group insurance for Association members from the Loyal American Life Insurance Company. An insurance committee to evaluate this plan and the American Library Association plan was named, with Mrs. McWhorter as chairman and Mrs. Boysworth as a member. The Secretary was instructed to send a statement of endorsement of the program to Mr. Donaldson and to **The Alabama Librarian** for publication in the April issue.

Miss Baird was authorized to have the Association Handbook mimeographed.

The recommendation to add Article VII, Parliamentary Authority, to the By-Laws of the Constitution was approved. The editor of **The Alabama Librarian** was instructed to print only the proposed amendment in the April issue. Miss Broadus was asked to refer the suggestions about retired members becoming honorary members and the affiliation with SELA back to the committee for further study.

Miss Mullen reported on the Alabama plan to use Federal funds to strengthen the Public Library Service Division, establish new regional or multi-county libraries, and further develop already established regional libraries. The biennial appropriation for the Division was presented.

Reports from the Legislative and Planning Committee, Recruitment Committee, and Scholarship Committee were presented to be filed with the minutes. Mrs. Foster and Miss Moss reported on convention plans and program plans.

Mrs. Foster and Miss Moss were hostesses at a luncheon for Council at the University Club.

Respectfully submitted,
Elinor Arsic, Secretary

NOMINEES FOR OFFICE

The following slate of officers is proposed to the membership of the Alabama Library Association for the year 1957-58:

Vice-President and President-Elect ..... Mrs. Elinor Arsic
Director, Muscle Shoals Regional Library

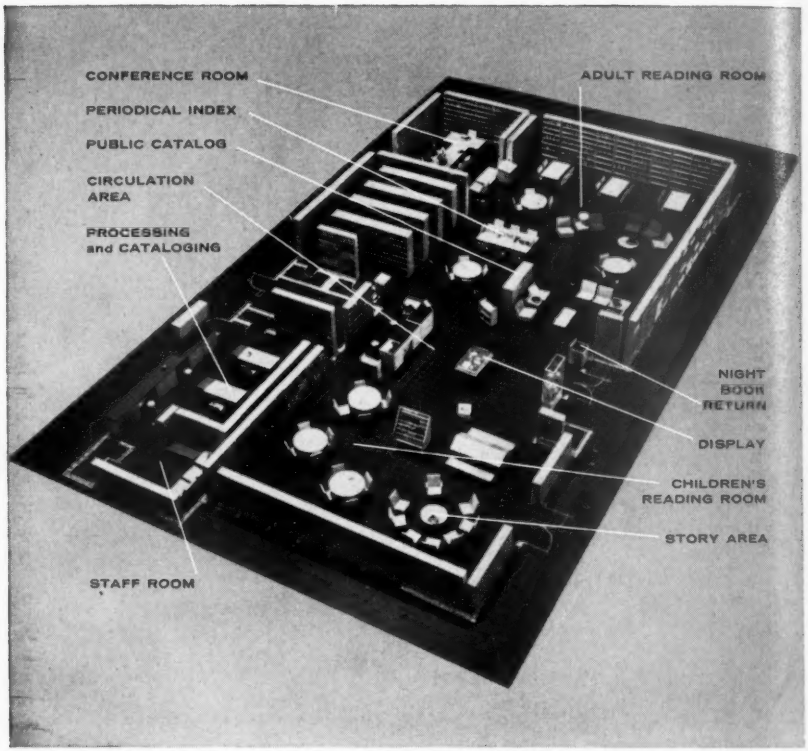
Secretary ..... Mrs. Edna Earle Brown
Library, Alabama Polytechnic Institute

Treasurer ..... Mrs. A. K. Hanna
Hewitt-Trusville High School Library

These names will be put in nomination during the annual business meeting of the Association at Tuscaloosa, April 13.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee.

Mary Lou Griffin
Clyde H. Cantrell
Richardena Ramsay, Chairman



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STATE EXTENSION PLAN SENT TO WASHINGTON

Mrs. Gretchen Schenk, Interim Director of the Public Library Service Division, has announced that the Alabama state plan for further extension of library services to rural areas was one of the 32 reported received by the Library Service Branch as of March 30. Preparation of the plan for presentation was one of the last activities performed by Miss Evelyn Mullen, former PLSD Director and now Library Extension Specialist for the U.S. Office of Education in Washington.

Word has been received that the Alabama plan will be approved as quickly as possible. As soon as the basic allotment of $40,000 is received by the state, orders will be placed for two new bookmobiles, and demonstrations now in the planning stage, notably the Shelby-St. Clair Regional Library will be activated.

Mrs. Gretchn Schenk's appointment as PLDS's Interim Director was announced by Mrs. J. U. Reaves, Chairman of the Board, early in February. In her acceptance of the office, which is a repeat performance for Mrs. Schenk, she remarked that she "is Alabama's spare-tire." Mrs. Schenk, who now makes her home in Summerdale, is a nationally recognized authority on county and regional library work, was formerly Director of the State Library of Washington and, more recently, has acted as a library consultant and trouble shooter throughout the United States. In 1954 she acted as Interim Director at PLSD for about five months until a permanent appointment could be made.

FLASH!

A check for $40,000 has just been received by PLSD as its first Library Services Act appropriation. More clerical assistants have already been appointed for the headquarters office, and other parts of the federal aid program will be put into operation as quickly as possible.

New Hospital Library Film Now Available for Loan

Winged Bequest, a film on hospital library service, has been added to the professional film collection of the Public Library Service Division, and is available on free loan. Sponsored by the Cleveland Public Library and the Cleveland Foundation, this film shows that books may influence the lives of shut-ins at home, in hospitals and institutions. It describes the public library extension services in hospitals and institutions; demonstrates the use of mechanical reading devices for the handicapped; and illustrates use of gifts and memorials. It is particularly suitable for showing to Gray Lady and other volunteer groups who participate in distributing books and magazines in hospitals. This 16 mm. film has a running time of 22 minutes and is in color.

PUBLIC LIBRARY DIVISION NOMINEES

The following slate of officers is proposed for the Public Library Division of the Alabama Library Association for the year 1957-58:

Chairman ..... Mrs. Dixie Lou Fisher, Montgomery
Vice-Chairman and Chairman-Elect ..... Miss Adele Cohn, Birmingham
Secretary-Treasurer ..... Miss Alice Doughtie, Ozark
1-Year Representative to
Executive Council ..... Miss Dorothy Webb, Huntsville
2-Year Representative to
Executive Council ..... Mrs. Gretchen Schenk, Summerdale

These nominees will be voted upon during the annual business meeting of the Division at Tuscaloosa, April 12.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee.

Marion Neill
Aleen Riley
Evelyn Peeler, Chairman

ALABAMA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

53rd Annual Conference

APRIL 11-13, 1957

TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA HOTEL STAFFORD

THEME: *The Library and Its Future*

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

2:30 Registration Desk Opens
2:30 Exhibits Open
2:30 Executive Council, Open meeting

CIRCLES OF INFORMATION

3:00 **New Edition of Dewey and Reclassification Problems**
Mrs. Orcena Mahoney, Executive Secretary,
Resources & Technical Services Division,
American Library Association

3:00 **Programming Library Services on TV**
Mrs. Dixie Lou Fisher, Director, Montgomery Public Library
Mr. Joe D. Langston, Assistant Director, Birmingham Public Library

3:30 **Career Clinic: Special Librarianship Overseas and in the South**
Miss Catherine Green, Technical Library, Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville;
Miss Anne Morton and Miss Virginia Staggers, Air University Library;
and Mrs. Margaret McClurkin.

4:00 **Group Insurance for Librarians**
Mrs. Jimmie McWhorter, Chairman, Insurance Committee, and
Librarian, Base Library, Brookley AFB, Mobile

4:00 **Work Simplification Routines**
Mrs. Elizabeth P. Beamguard, Public Library Service Division,
Montgomery

4:30 **Public Library Reference Survey**
Miss Lucile Nix, Chief Library Consultant (Public Libraries)
State Department of Education, Atlanta

4:30 **Administrative and Service Problems in Today's School Library**
Miss Virginia McJenkin, Supervisor, Fulton County School Libraries,
Atlanta

VISIT THE EXHIBITS

8:00 Reception at The University Club, 421 Queen City Avenue
Arranged by University of Alabama Library staff
(informal)

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

8:00 *College, University and Special Libraries Division Breakfast Rose Room
Presiding Mrs. Jimmie McWhorter, Brookley AFB, Mobile
Address: **Staff Retention**
Mr. William H. Jesse, Director of Libraries,
University of Tennessee

8:00 *Public Library Division Breakfast University Room
Presiding: Miss Richardena Ramsey, Librarian
Parke Memorial Library, Birmingham
Introduction of Speaker: Mr. Joe D. Langston,
Assistant Director, Birmingham Public Library

Address: **Public Library Standards**
Miss Lucile Nix, President-elect, Southeastern Library Association; Chief Library Consultant, State Department of Education, Georgia
Election of officers

VISIT THE EXHIBITS

9:30-10:45 **FIRST GENERAL SESSION** Cherokee Room
Presiding: Dr. William Stanley Hoole, Librarian, University of Alabama
Introduction of Exhibitors: Mrs. Willa Boysworth, Exhibits Chairman; Librarian, Huntingdon College
Panel: **Analyzing the Trends and Problems**
Moderator: Dr. Jerrold Orne, Director, Air University Library, Maxwell AFB
Panel from University of Alabama:
Dr. John R. McLure, Dean, College of Education, University of Alabama
Dr. Henry Moore, Director, Bureau of Business Research, University of Alabama
Dr. Robert B. Highsaw, Director, Bureau of Public Administration, University of Alabama
Discussants:
Miss Sybil Baird, Librarian, Indian Springs School, Helena
Mrs. Willa Boysworth, Librarian, Huntingdon College, Montgomery
Mrs. Gretchen Schenk, Interim Director, Public Library Service, Division, Montgomery
Dr. Harwell G. Davis, President, Howard College, and Trustee, Birmingham Public Library

11:00-12:15 **Planning Together for Better Libraries** University Room
Presiding: Mr. James M. McCain, Chairman, Trustees and Friends of Public Libraries Section
Discussion leaders: Mrs. H. E. Klonz, Trustee, Lee-Tallapoosa Regional Library, Dadeville, and Mrs. J. E. Price, Trustee, Tuscaloosa County Library

12:30 ***FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY LUNCHEON** Cherokee Room
Presiding: Dr. Jerrold Orne, President-elect, Director, Air University Library, Maxwell AFB, Montgomery
Invocation: Major Harwell G. Davis, President, Howard College, Birmingham
Vocal Solos: Miss Addice Duvalle, of Mobile, Senior, University of Alabama
Welcome: The Hon. George Van Tassell, Mayor of the City of Tuscaloosa
Welcome: Interim President, James H. Newman, University of Alabama
Response: Miss Martha Jule Blackshear, School Libraries Consultant, State Department of Education, Montgomery
Introduction of Guests
Introduction of Speaker: State Senator E. W. Sizemore, Tuscaloosa
Speaker: The Hon. Lister H. Hill, United States Senator from Alabama

2:45- 4:45 **SECOND GENERAL SESSION** Cherokee Room

2:45- 3:45 **The Industrialist Looks at the Library**

Presiding: Mrs. Elinor Arsic, Secretary;
Librarian, Muscle Shoals Regional Library, Florence

Introduction of Speaker: Dr. Paul Garner, Dean, School of Commerce and Business Administration, University of Alabama

Address: **The Industrialist Looks at the Library**
Mr. Hugh Comer, Chairman of the Board, Avondale Mills, Sylacauga

Discussants:

Miss Alice Kingery, Librarian, Business Library, University of Alabama

Mr. Richard J. Covey, Librarian, Public Library, Gadsden

Mrs. Lois R. Green, Librarian, Coleman Library, Calloway Mills Company, LaGrange, Georgia

Presentation of Library Achievement Award: Miss Margaret Miller, Head, Children's Work, Birmingham Public Library

Intermission (5 minutes)

3:45- 4:45 **The Future of the Book**

Moderator: Mrs. Gretchen Schenk, Interim Director, Public Library Service Division, Montgomery

Panel:

Mr. Theodore Waller, Vice-President, Grolier Society, New York City

Miss Mildred Smith, Director, Materials Center, Mobile Public Schools

Dr. John W. Mitchell, Chief, Audio-Visual Center, Air University Library, Maxwell AFB

Dr. Louis Shores, Dean, Library School, Florida State University, Tallahassee

5:00 TOURS (Optional) Sign for tours at Registration Desk before 2:30 p.m.
Tuscaloosa; University of Alabama Libraries; Tuscaloosa Library Bindery

VISIT THE EXHIBITS!

7:00 ***AUTHORS DINNER** (Honoring Alabama Authors)

Presiding: Mrs. Jean L. Hoffman, President

Invocation: The Rev. Emmet Gribbin, Chaplain, Canterbury Chapel

Vocal Solos: Mr. Russell Hedger, Instructor in Music, University of Alabama

Introduction of Guests

Presentation of Literary Award: Mr. Clyde H. Cantrell, Director of Libraries, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn

Address: **The Great Mosaic**
Mrs. Virginia Sorensen, American novelist, and winner of Newbery Award for 1956.

9:00 Reception Honoring Alabama Authors and Conference Speakers

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

8:00 *Alabama Association of School Librarians Breakfast Rose Room

Presiding: Mrs. Laura Gaines Sprott, Librarian, Troy High School

Speaker: Mrs. Christine Noble Govan, distinguished author.

8:00 *Special Libraries Association, Alabama Chapter, Breakfast University Room

Presiding: Miss Florine Oltman, Air University Library, Maxwell AFB

Program: Annual Business Meeting
Speaker: Mr. Hannes Luehrsen, Chief, Master Planning Branch, Army Ballistic Missile Agency, and Chief, Ordnance Guided Missile School, Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville

9:30-11:00 **THIRD GENERAL SESSION:** Annual Business Meeting
Presiding: Mrs. Jean L. Hoffman, President
Recognition of Exhibitors
Report of Treasurer
Report of the President
Reports of Standing Committees
Election of Officers
Sumary of Conference Theme: **The Challenge of the Future**
Dr. Louis Shores, Dean, Library School,
Florida State University, Tallahassee

12:30 ***LUNCHEON**
Presiding: Mr. William H. Jesse, Chairman, University Section, ACRL, American Library Association
Invocation: The Rev. Simril Bryant, First Presbyterian Church, Tuscaloosa
Violin Solos: Mr. Henry C. Barrett, Assistant Professor of Music, University of Alabama
Introduction of Speaker: Mr. John David Marshall, Head, Reference Department, API Library, Auburn
Address: **Through the Burning Glass**
Dr. Lawrence Clark Powell, Librarian, University of California, Los Angeles
Presentation of Gavel to Incoming President
Installation of Officers

2:30 Executive Council Meeting
Presiding: Dr. Jerrold Orne, President

NOTE: *These functions require the purchase of tickets which will be on sale at the Registration Desk. Reservations should be made at time of registration.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

(continued from page 22)

L. Quincy Mumford was principal speaker.

Your president also appeared on two state-wide Educational Television programs. During Book Week in celebrating Book Week in libraries throughout the nation, and again in December, discussing Books as Gifts and the Pleasures of Family Reading, as a guest of Mrs. Alma Bates, moderator, for the series entitled: **Improve Your Reading.**

MEMBERSHIP

474 members were reported by the Treasurer on December 31, 1956. Marelle Pruett, Chairman of Membership and her committee are hard at work contacting new members and advising old members that it is time to RENEW for 1957.

Let us all follow the example of Jimmie McWhorter, who last week collected 26 memberships in her area (Mobile).

EACH ONE WIN ONE should insure 600 or 700 memberships—an attainable goal if each administrator will encourage his staff.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC COMMITTEE

Miss Margaret Thomas, Chairman of the Bibliographic Committee, is compiling the list of Alabama authors to be invited to the banquet. A feature of the program will be the presentation of the Literary Award.

ALOHA . . .

There is always much which each president would have liked to accomplish toward the close of his or her year.

But happily, a new regime takes over, to continue the projects underway, and to

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advance new ideas and points of view.

May I take this opportunity to express my very warm and sincere appreciation to Council, to Committee Chairmen, and to all members who have rendered devoted service, and who have given unselfishly of their time.

May I thank you for the opportunity and the wealth of experience gained this year, and urge that you give your wholehearted support to my successor.

Leadership can never consist in conformity!

—Jean L. Hoffman.

The Cover...

The Tuscaloosa County Library has been gathering momentum since 1921 when the County Board of Revenue granted quarters and $25.00 a month with which the Up-To-Date Club of Tuscaloosa was authorized to establish a library. A room in the basement of the Court House was used for that purpose for five years. Gifts of books and voluntary service by the members of the sponsoring club played a large part in the Library's development.

In 1926 the library was moved to its present location, 819 24 Avenue, in the 138-year-old city that served as capital of the state for twenty years and is the home of the University of Alabama.

The next highlight in TCL's history was the establishment of bookmobile service in 1947. This was made possible by cooperation between the Civitan Club, the County Board of Education, and the Library. Service from the bookmobile is offered outside the city limits at 30 schools and 61 stations in all communities. The Civitan Club made possible in 1954 a new bookmobile to replace the first one.

In 1953 the Weaver Branch of this library was established to offer expanded service to Tuscaloosa's Negro citizens. It is located in the Benjamin Barnes Branch of the YMCA building.

A station of approximately 1,000 books, located in the town of Northport's Recreation Center, has proven the need for larger facilities there.

From its humble beginnings the TCL has grown to a collection of nearly 40,000 volumes (one for every 2½ persons), subscriptions to 62 periodicals, and a small phonograph record lending collection. Circulation during the last year was over 300,000.

Financial support from the County, the City, the County Board of Education, and the State amounts to $30,000 for the current year (approximately 30c a person).

With the steady growth of the collection, enlarged service, and increasing demands from the public, the Library is severely cramped in its present quarters. Mr. Hugo Friedman has again proven himself one of Tuscaloosa's outstanding citizens by giving to the County for library use a building that is one of the city's remaining antebellum homes and holds a prominent place in the history of Tuscaloosa.

When the building has been adapted to Library use, the staff will be able to offer more adequate service for the serious reader, the business man, and other groups. It will be better able to meet the demands of all ages in a growing and prospering community.

—Barbara Davis

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ALABAMA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
Literary Award Committee

(Created April 29, 1956, Sheffield, Ala.)

Organization:

The Committee shall be composed of five members appointed annually by the President of the Alabama Library Association, the Chairman to be approved by the Executive Council.

(The 1956-57 Committee: Fant H. Thornley, Chairman; Peter Brannon, Fannie Schmitt, Mildred Johnston, Sarah Verner, Fletcher Roberts.)

Functions:

To encourage and recognize Alabama authors and to promote interest in local authors' books, whether the books be about Alabama or another subject; to keep informed on the release of such books and to evaluate their literary or historical merit as lasting contributions.

General Rules:

1. The author must be an Alabamian or have lived in Alabama for at least five years.
2. The author must be living.
3. The book need not be on an Alabama subject.
4. An editor or translator may be considered if the book is of value to the permanent record of the State.
5. The book may be of any literary medium: Fiction, non-fiction, juvenile.
6. The book must have been published within the past three calendar years. (For the first award the book must have been published in 1954, 1955, or 1956.)
7. When the Committee has made its choice (unanimously if possible), it will then notify the President of the Alabama Library Association—the winner to be kept secret until the presentation ceremony during the annual convention.

—Fant H. Thornley, Chairman
Literary Awards Committee

GROUP INSURANCE AND LIBRARIANS

Librarians have become increasingly aware of the advantages of group insurance plans to cover accident, sickness, death, and "other adversities." Two new plans are now available to them, which offer attractive insurance plans at equally attractive rates.

For the first time, the Alabama Library Association is offering a group insurance scheme to its membership. This will include life insurance, sickness and disability pay and hospital insurance at a very reasonable rate. Any one who is a member of the Alabama Library Association and is employed in a library is eligible to join. For full information write to Mrs. Jimmy McWhorter, Chairman of Alabama Library Association Insurance Committee, 15 Lee Street, Mobile, Alabama.

The American Library Association has also recently issued notices of its Group Insurance Plan. This income protection insurance covers accident and sickness, dismemberment, and accidental death. It also has an optional rider for hospital and surgical coverage. Actively employed A.L.A. personal members, who are under sixty years of age and who earn $1,000 or more annually and who reside or claim residence in the United States, its territories and possessions, Canada, and Mexico are eligible to apply for coverage.

This insurance is available to all staff members (not just professional librarians) and to library trustees who are personal members of the American Library Association, of those who become members and meet the age and other eligibility requirements. For information write to American Library Association Group Insurance Plan, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago 11.

The American Library Association has had a group annuity plan for its members for

about twenty years. Information about this may be obtained by writing to the Association at the Chicago headquarters.

All the above plans are carried through reputable insurance firms. The library associations provide the "groups" and handle the collection of premiums for the insurance companies. It is this group sharing that helps secure the greater benefits at less cost.

—Evelyn Day Mullen

Loyal American Life

The President and Executive Council of the Alabama Library Association has received the proposal of the Loyal American Life Insurance Company to make available to members of the Alabama Library Association certain types of group insurance.

Your Executive Board has investigated the Loyal American Life Insurance Company and has learned through official sources that this company is sound and secure.

The Council believes it desirable to make such insurance available to the membership, particularly to those members who may not otherwise have comparable insurance available to them. Accordingly, the Board is pleased to report the results of its investigation and to recommend to the membership close consideration of the plan or plans to be presented soon.

—Jean Hoffman

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THE LINK THAT JOINED END-OF-SCHOOL WITH VACATION FREEDOM

By Rebekah L. Kenan, Librarian, Geneva Public Library

(EDITOR'S NOTE: *The article given below was written last summer by Miss Kenan, but publication was withheld until now when public librarians' thoughts turn to vacation reading programs as well as to other vernal fancies.*—RRF)

With vacation days almost here, elementary school students began to shed their serious-minded thoughts of study and research as they stopped by the library after school. There was a hint of fun and festivity in the air. From the sidewalk, balloons could be seen hanging in the doorway, enticing the young passers-by as they billowed in the breeze. Inside, on the corner of the children's section, was the Kraft Circus Zoo, crowned with book jackets, and showing cages of lions, bears, monkeys, and tigers. There were colored lights, blinking on and off, on and off, as the whole went spinning merrily around and around, and on each side there were books about the zoo, books about animals, and books galore about the circus.

Then in a few days school was finished, and a group of boys came in to work on the cardboard circus cut-out; soon there was a full grown parade led off by a majorette, marching the length of the table in the children's section. And what preceded the majorette? Why the book, **Here Comes the Parade,** of course! So, all are being tied together—fun, books, creative recreation, and a continuing of library habits through vacation days.

This source of entertainment for the children came to our library through the courtesy of the Kraft Company. In exchange for this loan, the librarian offered to feature books on dairying, dairy products, cheese making and cheese cookery, and to use as give-away bookmarks, any leaflets on Kraft products. The project has proven to be of interest to both young and old.

LOCAL LIBRARIES RECEIVE GIFTS

The Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn has recently been the recipient of two unusual book collections. First editions of **Ben-Hur, Ivanhoe, Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde** and titles were presented by Mr. J. D. Walker, of New Orleans, an alumnus of 1903. Then Mr. A. C. (Bill) Streit, former Auburn Player and football official, has given his extensive sports collection to the library. It includes books on various sports, some of which are first editions and others which are out of print, and an especially valuable group of publications on the Olympics.

Two Mobile insurance organizations are cooperating with the Mobile Public Library in building a business and technical library suitable to the city's growing stature in the industrial field. Works on all phases of insurance have been selected from a list provided by the librarian of the National Institute of Life Insurance. The books added to the collection so far have been primarily selected for the needs of the average reader, and the insurance groups will add more technical books later. Mr. Joe Templeton, Librarian, reports that, "The books have proved so popular with the public that many were taken out before the full collection was received."

Through efforts of the Huntsville Historical Society, the Culture Club of Huntsville, and the Huntsville Public Library, the Madison County-Huntsville Public Library has received a new collection of information about Howard Weeden and some unpublished poems of this beloved Huntsville author. In turning over to the library this collection of letters, poems, and original water color portraits, the donor, Miss Elizabeth Price, of Nashville, said: "I am merely giving back what is rightfully theirs."

The Florence Exchange Club, in late December, voted to give the Florence-Lauderdale County Library new phonograph records at two-month intervals during 1957. The Club has previously given the local library 15 records of outstanding quality.

When the Birmingham Public Library recently received 1,256 microfilm rolls, which photograph all the **New York Times** issues from the first copy in September 1851 to the present, Library Director Fant Thornley called this $6,000 gift from a prominent local family "the most significant gift to the library in recent years." The microfilm, which offers a first-hand account of the past century, has been stored in a specially built room of the periodical department of the library and can be used by all interested persons on the department's microfilm reader.

A complete set of the **Interpreter's Bible** has been given to the Florence-Lauderdale County Library as a memorial to William Hope Martin, former resident of Florence, by Mr. Martin's children and a grandson. A total of 63 books has been given as memorials to Mr. Martin.

On November 8 the famous painting "The Doctor," by Fields, was hung with appropriate ceremonies in the Geneva Public Library in memory of Dr. J. W. Beasley, Geneva County's beloved doctor and a resident of that county for 51 years.

Justice Hugo L. Black, of the U. S. Supreme Court, has presented his hometown library in Ashland with a set of the **Harvard Classics.**

The Alabama Room of the University of Alabama Library has been presented with the beginnings of a special collection on William March (William E. Campbell), well known Alabama writer. The material was presented to the library by two of Mr. Campbell's sisters, Mrs. Patty Maxwell, of Atlanta, and Mrs. Marie Haley, of Tuscaloosa, and by Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas McGowin of Mobile, friends of the author.

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Persons and Places . . .

Mrs. Jean Hoffman, President of the Alabama Library Association was among the first to pledge $100 toward the support of the Washington office of the American Library Association during the recent Midwinter Conference of the A.L.A.

* * *

Mr. John Kenneth Cameron, Alabama Representative on the Southeastern Library Association Executive Board, announces the appointment of the following Alabamians to SELA committees:

Nominating.....Mrs. Elizabeth Beamguard
Constitution.....Miss Mildred Johnston
Library Education.....Mrs. Pauline Foster
Library Work as a Career.....Mrs. Willa Boysworth
Audio-Visual.....Miss Leona Jones
Resources.....Dr. Jerrold Orne
Southern Books Committee.....Mr. Fant Thornley
Editorial Board.....Mrs. Jean Hoffman

* * *

Mrs. Adrian Hughes, Birmingham Southern College, is the new American Library Association Membership Chairman for Alabama. Aonther ALA appointment is that of Mr. John David Marshall, API Library, as a member of the Nominating Committee of the ALA Reference Services Division.

* * *

New President of the Alabama Association of School Librarians is Mrs. Laura Gaines Sprott, Troy, a former President of the Alabama Education Association.

All college and university librarians of professional status are now regarded by the American Association of University Professors as being "engaged in teaching or research," and as thus meeting this primary requirement for membership in the Association, regardless of that part of the library's activities in which they may be engaged. This decision is contained in the report of a meeting of the Association's Council appearing in the Spring 1956 **AAUP Bulletin** and is the result of the work of a Special Committee on Eligibility for Membership.

A membership count made during the past summer revealed that 738 librarians are already members of the American Association of University Professors. This places librarians in 20th place in a list of 46 subject-matter fields among which the present membership of nearly 40,000 is distributed.

* * *

Mr. Peter Brannon, Director of the State Department of Archives and History, has compiled a list of "Suggested Books on Alabama History for County Libraries." This annotated list, which is in the January 1957 issue of the Public Library Service Division's **News Notes**, may be of interest to all of the libraries in the state that are interested in building local history collections, as well as to history teachers and others. A copy may be obtained free of charge by writing to the Division at 4 N. Union St., Montgomery.

MISS LUCY GOLDTHWAITE

Funeral services were held in her home town of Montgomery on January 22 for Miss Lucy Armistead Goldthwaite, who died in Florida of a heart attack.

Miss Goldthwaite was Director of the Library for the Blind in New York City from 1905 until her retirement in 1942. Among her many notable activities was the editing of the "Braille Book Review," and her representation of the American Library Association on the Uniform Type Commission which obtained adoption of the universal Braille type.

In 1946 Miss Goldthwaite received the Migel Medal, awarded by the American Foundation for the Blind, for outstanding service. The actual presentation of the medal was made by another outstanding Alabamian, Miss Helen Keller.

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Dr. J. B. Nix, Chairman of the Covington-Crenshaw Regional Library Board since its organization in 1953, and a former member of the Executive Board of PLSD, has retired because of ill health. The Regional Board passed resolutions in December expressing deep appreciation for Dr. Nix's many years of unselfish effort in the cause of good library service. Mr. Jeff Carter, of Opp, has succeeded Dr. Nix as Chairman of the Board.

• • •

Dr. William E. Goodwin, Chairman of the Montgomery County Public Library Board, was chosen "Man of the Year" for 1956 by representatives of more than 70 Hi-Y and Tri-Hi-Y Clubs. At presentation ceremonies, Dr. Goodwin was cited as a "symbol of real leadership."

• • •

Mrs. S. M. Simmons, for many years librarian of the Shelby County Library, recently retired, and has been succeeded by Mrs. Eunice Luttrell.

• • •

Dr. Robert K. Johnson, Chief, Technical Services Division of the Air University Library, received the Ph.D. degree from the University of Illinois Library School at the mid-year graduation exercises. The title of Dr. Johnson's dissertation is "Characteristics of Libraries in Selected Higher Military Educational Institutions in the United States."

• • •

The New York State Library School (Albany) Alumni Association is presently compiling a final edition of its biographical register, and is requesting that all graduates please write in to give their present addresses and occupations. Information may be sent to Carl Brown, Box 44, Butler Library, School of Library Service, Columbia University, New York 27, N. Y.

• • •

The name of Miss Edna Eaves, School Library Consultant, Jefferson County Schools, Birmingham, was inadvertently omitted from the Membership Directory. Miss Eaves is a member in good standing and the President regrets this error in the membership records.

CALENDAR NOTES

April 11-13—Alabama Library Association Convention
Hotel Stafford, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

May 26-30—Special Libraries Association Convention
Hotel Statler, Boston, Mass.

June 23-29—American Library Association Conference
Municipal Auditorium,
Kansas City, Mo.

Material on special libraries in the state is currently being published in the **Bulletin** of the Alabama Chapter of the Special Libraries Association. To date, descriptions of six libraries have appeared: TVA Chemical Engineering Library at Wilson Dam (v.3, no.2, April 1956); Auburn Research Foundation, and Southern Research Institute Library (v.3, no.3, July 1956); The New Air University Library, Birmingham V.A. Library, and Jefferson County Law Library (v.4, no.1, January 1957).

Mr. Wiley Williams, Librarian of the Business Library of the University of Alabama, is the editor of the **Bulletin,** and can probably furnish copies of any of the above articles to those who are interested in seeing them.

• • •

Mrs. Jack Harrison, nee Amelia Harvey, who began her library career as a member of the Montgomery County Library staff, has returned to Montgomery to make her home, and is now cataloguing the collection of the State Supreme Court Library.

• • •

A travel movie on South Alabama became available for distribution on January 1. The color and sound movie was sponsored by the South Baldwin Chamber of Commerce and is the first travel movie made in Alabama since 1939. The picture, which runs about 15 minutes, shows the recreational and scenic facilities of South Alabama. It is available to clubs and organizations at no cost. Write the South Baldwin Chamber of Commerce, Foley, for further information.

Mr. Wilbur Helmbold has been appointed Librarian of Howard College in Birmingham. Mr. Helmbold, who is a graduate of Howard and of Duke University, will assume his duties on May 1.

• • •

Two new members of the Reference and Bibliographic Assistance Branch of the Air University Library are Miss Hope Reid and Miss Ann Morton. Miss Reid was formerly Assistant Librarian at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida. Miss Morton came to AUL from Wiesbaden, Germany, where she was Command Librarian for Headquarters 7100th Support Wing, U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

• • •

Among the social occasions honoring Miss Evelyn Mullen just before her departure for Washington were the following:

A luncheon at the Blue Moon in Montgomery on February 16 which was attended by about 45 librarians and friends of libraries from all sections of the state. Hostesses for the occasion were Mrs. Elizabeth Beamguard and Mrs. Ruth Field.

The Birmingham Library Club entertained at a tea on February 17, at the home of Mrs. Frank Chapelle.

Mrs. Dixie Lou Fisher, Mrs. Virginia Jones, and Mr. Kenneth Cameron each gave a dinner at home, and Mrs. Suzanne Connell entertained at a tea.

In addition, the staff of the Public Library Service Division gave a party at which time the members presented to Miss Mullen as a farewell gift that well-known Washington necessity—a briefcase.

Mrs. Elizabeth Beamguard attended a Work Simplification Conference held at Louisiana State University in February. The Conference, which was sponsored by the L.S.U. Library School and the State Library, consisted of twelve sessions and an added panel on "How To Buy a Book."

All School Librarians Invited To Attend One-Day Meetings

All school librarians and their principals and fellow teachers are invited to attend and participate in a one-day professional meeting sponsored by the State Department of Education, according to an announcement by Miss Martha Jule Blackshear, School Libraries Consultant.

Questions to be discussed at the meetings are: What to do to make Johnny want to read for personal satisfaction? Whose responsibility is it to plan and promote a continuing program of reading through all of the grades? How does the librarian function in the reading program?

All meetings will begin at 9:30 a.m. and be dismissed at 2:30 p.m., and are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, April 23, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Education Library Building.

Thursday, April 25, State Teachers College, Livingston, College Administration Building.

Tuesday, April 30, State Teachers College, Troy, Little Assembly Room in the Student Center.

Thursday, May 2, State Department of Education, Montgomery, Room 347, New State Office Building.

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